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**LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER  
AUGUST 2009**

Red meat production in **Colorado** during August 2009 totaled 176.8 million pounds, 2 percent below the 180.7 million pounds produced during August 2008 and 1 percent below the 178.8 million pounds produced during July of this year. Cattle slaughter during August was down 3 percent from the previous year to 202,400 head but the average live weight increased 2 pounds to 1,334 pounds per head. Hog slaughter, at 1,700 head, remained unchanged from August 2008 along with the average live weight at 253 pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the first eight months of this year now totals 1.37 billion pounds, down 7 percent from the 1.46 billion pounds produced during the comparable period last year.

Commercial red meat production for the **United States** totaled 4.08 billion pounds in August, down slightly from the 4.10 billion pounds produced in August 2008. Beef production, at 2.18 billion pounds, was 4 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, down 4 percent from August 2008. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,293 pounds.

Veal production totaled 10.6 million pounds, 5 percent below August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 76,700 head, down 3 percent from August 2008. The average live weight was down 11 pounds from last year, at 234 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.87 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.34 million head, up 1 percent from August 2008. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 268 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.3 million pounds, was up slightly from August 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 202,900 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, unchanged from August a year ago.

January to August 2009 commercial red meat production was 32.5 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was

# AG UPDATE

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down 3 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

**Red Meat Production, Colorado and United States**

Area and Species	Aug 2008	July 2009	Aug 2009	January-Aug	
				2008	2009
Million Pounds					
<b>Colorado</b> .....	180.7	178.8	176.8	1,464.9	1,367.7
<b>United States</b> .....	4,095.2	4,123.5	4,076.6	33,390.3	32,501.1
Beef.....	2,266.8	2,270.5	2,184.2	17,909.1	17,304.4
Veal.....	11.2	10.8	10.6	92.2	89.5
Pork.....	1,803.9	1,828.3	1,868.4	15,272.9	14,995.7
Lamb & Mutton .....	13.3	13.9	13.3	116.0	111.6

**CATTLE ON FEED  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009**

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 860,000 head as of September 1, 2009. The latest inventory was up 1 percent from August 1, 2009, and up 12 percent from the 770,000 on feed on September 1, 2008. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 190,000 head of fed cattle during August 2009. This represented a 6 percent increase from the July 2009 marketings, and a 15 percent increase from the August marketings one year earlier. An estimated 205,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during August, up 64 percent from July 2009 placements and up 8 percent from a year ago. Of the number placed in August, 7 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 10 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 24 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 59 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for August, at 5,000 head, was the same as last month and last year.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.88 million head on September 1, 2009. The inventory was 1 percent below September 1, 2008. Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.11 million, 2 percent above 2008. Net placements were 2.06 million head. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 425,000, 600-699 pounds were 395,000, 700-799 pounds were 515,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 775,000. Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 1.81 million, 4 percent below 2008. This is the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of August since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 55,000 during August, 12 percent above 2008.

**Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States  
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots  
August 1 to September 1, 2008-2009**

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed Aug. 1	750	850	9,869	9,637
Placements During Aug.	190	205	2,061	2,110
< 600 pounds	15	15	365	425
600 - 699 Pounds	20	20	410	395
700 - 799 Pounds	50	50	566	515
800 Plus Pounds	105	120	720	775
Marketings During Aug.	165	190	1,884	1,810
Other Disap. During Aug.	5	5	49	55
On Feed September 1	770	860	9,997	9,882

**MILK PRODUCTION  
AUGUST 2009**

Milk production in **Colorado** during August 2009 totaled 244 million pounds, down 7 million pounds from the 251 million pounds produced during the same period a year earlier. The average number of milk cows for August of this year was 123,000 head, down 7,000 head from August 2008. Production per cow averaged 1,980 pounds for August, 3 percent above the 1,930 produced a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during August totaled 14.6 billion pounds, down 0.2 percent from August 2008. July revised production at 14.8 billion pounds, was down slightly from July 2008. The July revision represented a decrease of 13 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,743 pounds for August, 25 pounds above August 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.37 million head, 143,000 head less than August 2008, and 28,000 head less than July 2009.

**Milk Cows and Milk Production**

Item	Unit	2008	2009
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	130	123
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u> .....	Lbs.	1,930	1,980
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. Lbs.	251	244
<b>23 State Total:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> .....	1,000 head	8,515	8,372
Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u> .....	Lbs.	1,718	1,743
Production <u>2/</u> .....	Mil. Lbs.	14,626	14,594

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

**CROP PRODUCTION  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009**

**COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS**

The **corn** yield forecast is now estimated at 138.0 bushels per acre, 1.0 bushel above last year's final yield, but 2 bushels below the August 1 forecast. The forecast for harvested acres was at 1,000,000 acres, down 80,000 acres from the area harvested for grain in 2008. Corn production is forecast at 138.00 million bushels, 7 percent less than last year's production.

The **sorghum** yield is forecast at 32.0 bushels per acre, 3.0 bushels below the August 1 forecast, but 2.0 bushels above last year's crop. Growers are expected to harvest 140,000 acres, placing production at 4.48 million bushels, down slightly from the 4.5 million bushels last year, with 10,000 acres less harvested than last year.

The **summer potato** yield forecast was unchanged from July 1 at 400 cwt per acre, up 30 cwt from last year's average yield. Growers are expected to harvest 3,900 acres, down 500 acres from last year's harvested area. Production is forecast at 1.56 million cwt., 68,000 cwt below last year's production. The **sugarbeet** yield is forecast at 27.7 tons per acre, down 1.3 tons from the August 1 forecast but 1.2 tons above last year's yield. Production is now forecast at 970,000 tons from 35,000 harvested acres, up from last year's 758,000 tons from 28,600 acres.

**UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS**

**Corn** production is forecast at almost 13.0 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month and 7 percent higher than 2008. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 161.9 bushels per acre, up 2.4 bushels from August and 8.0 bushels above last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record and production will be the second largest, behind 2007. Yield forecasts increased from last month across the western Corn Belt and the northern half of the Great Plains as mild temperatures and adequate soil moisture supplies provided favorable growing conditions. Yield prospects were unchanged in the eastern Corn Belt where dry conditions during August depleted soil moisture supplies.

**Sorghum** production is forecast at just under 390 million bushels, up 2 percent from last month but down 18 percent from last year. Expected area for harvest as grain is forecast at 5.95 million acres, unchanged from August but down 18 percent from 2008. Based on September 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 65.5 bushels per acre, up 1.5 bushels from August and up 0.5 bushel from last year. The Nation's sorghum crop was rated 49 percent good to excellent, compared with 51 percent at the same time last year. Yield forecasts are at or above last month's levels in all of the major sorghum-producing States except Colorado.

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Acres, yield, and production, Colorado and United States, 2008-2009**

Area and Crop	Planted Acres		Harvested Acres		Unit	Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres			Units per acre		1,000 units	
<b>Colorado:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	1,250	1,150	1,080	1,000	Bu.	137.0	138.0	147,960	138,000
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	230	210	150	140	Bu.	30.0	32.0	4,500	4,480
All Wheat .....	2,190	2,630	1,936	2,479	Bu.	30.8	40.6	59,700	100,610
Winter Wheat .....	2,150	2,600	1,900	2,450	Bu.	30.0	40.0	57,000	98,000
Spring Wheat.....	40	30	36	29	Bu.	75.0	90.0	2,700	2,610
Oats .....	45	60	7	9	Bu.	70.0	65.0	490	585
Barley.....	80	78	72	77	Bu.	120.0	135.0	8,640	10,395
Proso Millet.....	270	200	230	4/	Bu.	33.0	4/	7,590	4/
All Hay.....	...	...	1,570	1,600	Tons	2.54	3.1	3,981	5,032
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	820	840	Tons	3.3	4.0	2,706	3,360
Other Hay.....	...	...	750	760	Tons	1.7	2.2	1,275	1,672
Sugarbeets .....	33.8	36.3	28.6	35.0	Tons	26.5	27.7	758	970
Dry edible beans.....	48	57	44	52	Cwt.	1,500	1,650	660	858
Sunflowers, All .....	194	95	162	87	Lbs.	947.0	5/	153,400	5/
Sunflowers, Oil.....	170	80	143	73	Lbs.	900	5/	128,700	5/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	24	15	19	14	Lbs.	1,300	5/	24,700	5/
All potatoes .....	61.6	60.0	61.3	59.7	Cwt.	374.0	6/	23,532	6/
Summer potatoes .....	4.6	4.0	4.4	3.9	Cwt.	370.0	400.0	1,628	1,560
Fall potatoes .....	57.0	56.0	56.9	55.8	Cwt.	385.0	6/	21,907	6/
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	18,000	16,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	14	13
<b>United States:</b>									
All Corn <u>1/</u> .....	85,982	87,035	78,640	80,007	Bu.	153.9	161.9	12,101,238	12,954,500
All Sorghum <u>1/</u> .....	8,284	6,940	7,271	5,948	Bu.	65.0	65.5	472,342	389,589
All Wheat <u>2/</u> .....	63,193	59,133	55,699	50,058	Bu.	44.9	44.4	2,499,164	2,220,156
Winter Wheat .....	46,307	43,311	39,608	34,485	Bu.	47.1	44.2	1,867,333	1,522,718
Spring Wheat.....	14,165	13,268	13,517	13,055	Bu.	40.5	45.0	548,004	587,361
Oats .....	3,247	3,404	1,400	1,379	Bu.	63.7	67.6	89,135	93,276
Barley.....	4,246	3,567	3,779	3,123	Bu.	63.6	72.8	240,193	227,383
Rye .....	1,260	1,241	269	252	Bu.	29.7	27.8	7,979	6,993
Proso Millet.....	520	405	460	4/	Bu.	32.3	4/	14,880	4/
All Hay.....	...	...	60,062	60,177	Tons	2.43	2.52	145,672	151,941
Alfalfa Hay.....	...	...	20,980	20,982	Tons	3.32	3.48	69,620	72,986
Other Hay.....	...	...	39,082	39,195	Tons	1.95	2.01	76,052	78,955
Sugarbeets .....	1,090.8	1,118.5	1,004.6	1,158.5	Tons	26.7	27.0	26,837	31,327
Dry edible beans.....	1,495.0	1,481.1	1,445.2	1,392.0	Cwt.	1,768	1,750	25,558	24,359
Sunflowers, All .....	2,516.5	2,098.0	2,396.0	1,997.0	Lbs.	1,429	5/	3,422,840	5/
Sunflowers, Oil.....	2,163.0	1,784.0	2,062.0	1,702.2	Lbs.	1,452	5/	2,993,510	5/
Sunflowers, Non-Oil .....	353.5	314.0	334.0	294.8	Lbs.	1,285	5/	429,330	5/
All potatoes <u>3/</u> .....	1,059.6	1,061.4	1,046.9	1,047.6	Cwt.	396	6/	415,055	6/
Summer potatoes .....	47.2	43.9	45.1	42.5	Cwt.	306	346	13,805	14,705
Fall potatoes .....	931.1	932.9	922.0	922.7	Cwt.	411	6/	378,588	6/
Soybeans .....	75,718	77,723	74,641	76,767	Bu.	39.6	42.3	2,959,174	3,245,292
Apples .....	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	...	...	9,769,300	10,113,000
Peaches.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	1,133.3	1,078.3
Pears.....	...	...	...	...	Tons	...	...	870.9	935.3

1/ Planted for all purposes; harvested for grain. 2/ Includes Durum Wheat. 3/ Includes Winter and Spring Crops. 4/ Jan. 2010.  
5/ October 9, 2009. 6/ November 10, 2009.

*(Continued from page 2)*

**Summer Potatoes** production is forecast at 14.7 million cwt, up 1 percent from the July forecast and 7 percent above 2008. Harvested area is estimated at 42,500 acres, unchanged from the July forecast but 6 percent below last year. Average yield is forecast at 346 cwt per acre, up 5 cwt from July and up 40 cwt from 2008. If realized, Colorado's yield, at 400 cwt per acre, will be a record high. Growing conditions were reported as very good despite early hail damage.

**Sugarbeets** production for the 2009 crop year is forecast at 31.3 million tons, 4 percent below the August 1 forecast but up 17 percent from last year. Production forecasts remained unchanged or decreased from August in all estimating States except Montana. Growers expect to harvest 1.16 million acres, up fractionally from the August 1 forecast and 15 percent above last year. Expected yield is forecast at 27.0 tons per acre, down 1.2 tons from August but up 0.3 ton from 2008. If realized, this will be a record high yield. Record yields are also expected in Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Oregon, and Wyoming.

**COLD STORAGE  
AUGUST 31, 2009**

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on August 31, 2009 were greater than year earlier levels for butter, cheese, eggs, pork, and turkey. Butter stocks were up slightly from last month and up 23 percent from a year ago.

Total red meat supplies in freezers were down 4 percent from the previous month but up slightly from last year. Frozen pork supplies were down 4 percent from the previous month but up 3 percent from last year. Stocks of pork bellies were down 19 percent from last month but up 54 percent from last year.

Total frozen poultry supplies on August 31, 2009 were down 3 percent from the previous month and down 7 percent from a year ago. Total stocks of chicken were down 6 percent from the previous month and down 15 percent from last year. Total pounds of turkey in freezers were up slightly from last month and up 2 percent from August 31, 2008.

**Stocks in Storage, United States**

Commodity	Aug 31, 2008	July 30, 2009	Aug 31, 2009
	<b>1,000 Pounds</b>		
Butter .....	213,744	262,782	263,173
Cheese, total natural.....	880,276	987,989	985,318
Eggs, frozen .....	20,800	22,578	22,596
Poultry, total frozen .....	1,386,878	1,328,751	1,290,558
Chicken.....	755,405	681,409	642,249
Turkey.....	629,236	641,060	642,630
Fruits, frozen.....	1,125,683	1,154,746	1,242,683
Fruit Juices, frozen.....	1,638,402	1,673,554	1,581,761
Vegetables, total frozen.....	2,059,079	1,832,188	2,138,244
Potatoes, total frozen.....	1,126,710	1,187,530	1,110,066
Meats, total red .....	970,947	1,014,695	974,629
Beef, total frozen.....	441,150	444,807	426,402
Pork, total frozen.....	502,669	539,700	517,941

Data for this report are collected from public and private refrigerated warehouses storing commodities for 30 days or more. Stocks in space owned or leased by the Armed Forces are excluded. Food stocks held under bond are included in the storage data.

**UPCOMING REPORTS**

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

- Sept. 30 - Grain Stocks
- Sept. 30 - Small Grains Summary
- Oct. 2 - Vegetables
- Oct. 9 - Crop Production
- Oct. 16 - Cattle on Feed
- Oct. 20 - Milk Production
- Oct. 22 - Cold Storage
- Oct. 23 - Chickens and Eggs
- Oct. 23 - Livestock Slaughter

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